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March 24, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 3611
Examiner: To Be Assigned
Confirmation No.: 6480

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/681,226; Filed: October 9, 2003
For: **Vehicle Improved Steering**
Inventors: **IRIKURA et al.**
Our Ref: 0666.1400002/TGD/ALF

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. List of Documents Cited on Forms PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b (9 Pages);
3. One (1) return postcard.

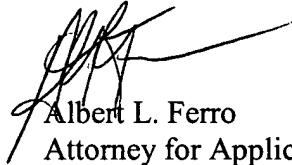
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
March 24, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Albert L. Ferro
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,679

TGD/ALF/awt
Enclosures

244587_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
IRIKURA et al.
Appl. No.: 10/681,226
Filed: October 9, 2003
For: **Vehicle Improved Steering**

Confirmation No.: 6480
Art Unit: 3611
Examiner: *To Be Assigned*
Atty. Docket: 0666.1400002/TGD/ALF

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying SB/08a and SB/08b forms are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached SB/08a and SB/08b forms based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:

a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.

6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:

7. Copies of the documents are submitted herewith.

8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. 10/122,396, filed April 16, 2002, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

No copies of the U.S. patents, U.S. patent applications, and U.S. patent publications listed on the attached Forms PTO-SB/08a and Forms PTO SB/08b are submitted in accordance with 1276 OG 55 because this application was filed after June 30, 2003.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed SB/08a and SB/08b forms, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Albert L. Ferro
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,679

Date: March 24, 2004

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

MAR 24 2004

U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application Number	10/681,226
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Filing Date	October 9, 2003
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> First Named Inventor	Irikura et al.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art Unit	3611
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attorney Docket Number	0666.1400002/TGD/ALF

Sheet	1	of	9
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)			
	AA1	US-168,955	10-19-1875	Annin	
	AB1	US-2,191,961	02-27-1940	Howell	
	AC1	US-2,255,348	09-09-1941	Brown	
	AD1	US-2,311,922	02-23-1943	Allin	
	AE1	US-2,332,838	10-26-1943	Borgward	
	AF1	US-2,336,911	12-14-1943	Zimmerman	
	AG1	US-2,336,912	12-14-1943	Zimmerman	
	AH1	US-2,391,735	12-25-1945	Orshansky, Jr.	
	AI1	US-2,530,720	11-21-1950	Paulson	
	AJ1	US-2,745,506	05-15-1956	McCallum	
	AK1	US-2,763,164	09-18-1956	Neklutin	
	AL1	US-2,936,033	05-10-1960	Gates	
	AM1	US-3,059,416	10-23-1962	Campbell	
	AN1	US-3,371,734	03-05-1968	Zaunberger	
	AO1	US-3,376,760	04-09-1968	Gordanier	
	AP1	US-3,395,671	08-06-1968	Zimmerman	
	AQ1	US-3,450,218	06-17-1969	Looker	
	AR1	US-3,492,891	02-03-1970	Livezey	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (In Known)				
	FP1	CH 168,955	06-15-1947	Dufour		
	FP2	DE 4224887	09-30-1993	Hering		
	FP3	EP 806337 A1	11-12-1997	Ferrari		
	FP4	FR 1147142	11-19-1957	Collective.		
	FP5	GB 2303829 A	03-05-1997	Barnes		
	FP6	JP 57140277	08-30-1982	Kido		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet	2	of	Attorney Docket Number	0666.1400002/TGD/ALF
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)			
AA2	US-3,530,741		09-29-1970	Charest	
AB2	US-3,590,658		07-06-1971	Tuck	
AC2	US-3,596,535		08-03-1971	Polak	
AD2	US-3,603,176		09-07-1971	Tipping et al.	
AE2	US-3,612,199		10-12-1971	Vissers	
AF2	US-3,717,212		02-20-1973	Potter	
AG2	US-3,796,275		03-12-1974	Bouyer	
AH2	US-3,869,014		03-04-1975	Federspiel et al.	
AI2	US-3,901,339		08-26-1975	Williamson	
AJ2	US-3,903,977		09-09-1975	Gillette et al.	
AK2	US-3,907,051		09-23-1975	Weant et al.	
AL2	US-3,966,005		06-29-1976	Binger	
AM2	US-3,978,937		09-07-1976	Chichester et al.	
AN2	US-4,133,404		01-09-1979	Griffin	
AO2	US-4,174,762		11-20-1979	Hopkins et al.	
AP2	US-4,245,524		01-20-1981	Dammon	
AQ2	US-4,281,737		08-04-1981	Molzahn	
AR2	US-4,320,810		03-23-1982	Hillmannet al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				
FP7	JP 63227476		09-21-1988	Suzuki et al.		
FP8	JP 2261952		10-24-1990	Sato		
FP9	JP 6264976		09-20-1994	Kenji		
F10	JP 8142906		06-04-1996	Hidaka		
FP11	JP 9202255		08-05-1997	Hidaka		
FP12	JP 9202258		08-05-1997	Hidaka		

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³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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PATENTS & TRADEMARKS

		Complete If Known		
		Application Number	10/681,226	
		Filing Date	October 9, 2003	
		First Named Inventor	Irikura et al.	
		Ad Unit	3611	
		Examiner Name	To Be Assigned	
		Attorney Docket Number	0666.1400002/TGD/ALF	

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)			
	AA3	US-4,399,882	08-23-1983	O'Neil et al.	
	AB3	US-4,471,669	09-18-1984	Seaberg	
	AC3	US-4,572,310	02-25-1986	Peter	
	AD3	US-4,577,711	03-25-1986	Butler	
	AE3	US-4,620,575	11-04-1986	Cuba et al.	
	AF3	US-4,718,508	01-12-1988	Tervola	
	AG3	US-4,729,257	03-08-1988	Nelson	
	AH3	US-4,732,053	03-22-1988	Gleasman et al.	
	AI3	US-4,738,328	04-19-1988	Hayden	
	AJ3	US-4,776,235	10-11-1988	Gleasman et al.	
	AK3	US-4,776,236	10-11-1988	Gleasman et al.	
	AL3	US-4,782,650	11-08-1988	Walker	
	AM3	US-4,790,399	12-13-1988	Middlesworth	
	AN3	US-4,809,796	03-07-1989	Yamaoka et al.	
	AO3	US-4,813,506	03-21-1989	Smith	
	AP3	US-4,870,820	10-03-1989	Nemoto	
	AQ3	US-4,875,536	10-24-1989	Saur et al.	
	AR3	US-4,882,947	11-28-1989	Barnard	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				
	FP13	JP 9202259	08-05-1997	Hidaka		
	FP14	JP 9216522	08-19-1997	Hidaka		
	FP15	WO 92/12889	08-06-1992	Morimoto		
	FP16	WO 98/32645	07-30-1998	Hidaka et al.		
	FP17	WO 99/40499	08-12-1999	Emerson		
	FP18	WO 00/01569	01-13-2000	Abend et al.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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PATENT & TRADEMARK

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/681,226
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First Named Inventor	Irikura et al.
Art Unit	3611
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Sheet

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of

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)			
	AA4	US-4,895,052	01-23-1990	Gleasman et al.	
	AB4	US-4,917,200	04-17-1990	Lucius	
	AC4	US-4,932,209	06-12-1990	Okada et al.	
	AD4	US-4,949,823	08-21-1990	Coutant et al.	
	AE4	US-5,004,060	04-02-1991	Barbagli et al.	
	AF4	US-5,015,221	05-14-1991	Smith	
	AG4	US-5,052,511	10-01-1991	Hunt	
	AH4	US-5,094,326	03-10-1992	Schemelin et al.	
	AI4	US-5,131,483	07-21-1992	Parkes	
	AJ4	US-RE34,057	09-08-1992	Middlesworth	
	AK4	US-5,195,600	03-23-1993	Dorgan	
	AL4	US-5,201,240	04-13-1993	Hayes et al.	
	AM4	US-5,247,784	09-28-1993	Kitamura et al.	
	AN4	US-5,279,376	01-18-1994	Yang et al.	
	AO4	US-5,285,866	02-15-1994	Ackroyd	
	AP4	US-5,307,612	05-03-1994	Tomiyama et al.	
	AQ4	US-5,314,387	05-24-1994	Hauser et al.	
	AR4	US-5,335,739	08-09-1994	Pieterse et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				
	FP19	WO 00/19127	04-06-2000	Hasegawa et al.		

Examiner Signature

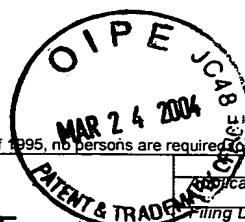
Date Considered

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet	5	of	9	Application Number	10/681,226
				Filing Date	October 9, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Irikura et al.
				Art Unit	3611
				Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	0666.1400002/TGD/ALF

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)				
	AA5	US-5,339,631		08-23-1994	Ohashi	
	AB5	US-5,367,861		11-29-1994	Murakawa et al.	
	AC5	US-5,383,528		01-24-1995	Nicol	
	AD5	US-5,387,161		02-07-1995	Shibahata	
	AE5	US-5,505,279		04-09-1996	Louis et al.	
	AF5	US-5,507,138		04-16-1996	Wright et al.	
	AG5	US-5,517,809		05-21-1996	Rich	
	AH5	US-5,535,840		07-16-1996	Ishino et al.	
	AI5	US-5,553,453		09-10-1996	Coutant et al.	
	AJ5	US-5,560,447		10-01-1996	Ishii et al.	
	AK5	US-5,564,518		10-15-1996	Ishii et al.	
	AL5	US-5,644,903		07-08-1997	Davis, Jr.	
	AM5	US-5,649,606		07-22-1997	Bebernes et al.	
	AN5	US-5,667,032		09-16-1997	Kamlukin	
	AO5	US-5,706,907		01-13-1998	Unruh	
	AP5	US-5,722,501		03-03-1998	Finch et al.	
	AQ5	US-5,775,437		07-07-1998	Ichikawa et al.	
	AR5	US-5,782,142		07-21-1998	Abend et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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of

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		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)			
	AA6	US-5,842,378	12-01-1998	Zellmer	
	AB6	US-5,850,886	12-22-1998	Kouno et al.	
	AC6	US-5,894,907	04-20-1999	Peter	
	AD6	US-5,910,060	06-08-1999	Blume	
	AE6	US-5,913,802	06-22-1999	Mullet et al.	
	AF6	US-5,946,894	09-07-1999	Eavenson et al.	
	AG6	US-5,947,219	09-07-1999	Peter et al.	
	AH6	US-5,975,224	11-02-1999	Satzler	
	AI6	US-5,997,425	12-07-1999	Coutant et al.	
	AJ6	US-6,026,634	02-22-2000	Peter et al.	
	AK6	US-6,035,959	03-14-2000	Schaedler	
	AL6	US-6,038,840	03-21-2000	Ishimori et al.	
	AM6	US-6,098,386	08-08-2000	Shimizu et al.	
	AN6	US-6,098,737	08-08-2000	Aoki	
	AO6	US-6,098,740	08-08-2000	Abend et al.	
	AP6	US-6,126,564	10-03-2000	Irikura et al.	
	AQ6	US-6,129,164	10-10-2000	Teal et al.	
	AR6	US-6,141,947	11-07-2000	Borling	

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		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				

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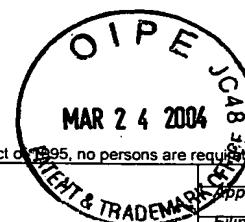
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Sheet	7	of	9	Complete If Known
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Application Number	10/681,226
Filing Date	October 9, 2003
First Named Inventor	Irikura et al.
Art Unit	3611
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	0666.1400002/TGD/ALF

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if Known)			
	AA7	US-6,152,248	11-28-2000	Hidaka et al.	
	AB7	US-6,189,641	02-20-2001	Azuma	
	AC7	US-6,196,342	03-06-2001	Teal et al.	
	AD7	US-6,196,348	03-06-2001	Yano et al.	
	AE7	US-6,257,357	07-10-2001	Teal et al.	
	AF7	US-6,260,641	07-17-2001	Hidake	
	AG7	US-6,283,236	09-04-2001	Teal et al.	
	AH7	US-6,312,354	11-06-2001	Irikura et al.	
	AI7	US-6,336,513	01-08-2002	Hasegawa et al.	
	AJ7	US-6,354,388	03-12-2002	Teal et al.	
	AK7	US-6,397,966	06-04-2002	Irikura et al.	
	AL7	US-6,447,419	09-10-2002	Irikura	
	AM7	US-6,484,827	11-26-2002	Teal	
	AN7	US-6,524,205	02-25-2003	Irikura	
	AO7	US-6,540,633	04-01-2003	Hasegawa	
	AP7	US-6,547,685	04-15-2003	Kawada	
	AQ7	US-6,554,085	04-29-2003	Hasegawa	
	AR7	US-6,629,577	10-07-2003	Abend	

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		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				

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				<i>Application Number</i>	10/681,226
				<i>Filing Date</i>	October 9, 2003
				<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Irikura et al.
				<i>Art Unit</i>	3611
				<i>Examiner Name</i>	To Be Assigned
Sheet	8	of	9	<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	0666.1400002/TGD/ALF

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	NPLD1	Excel Industries Inc., "U-T-R The Ultimate Turning Raduis," pp. 1-6, December 1992.	
	NPLD2	Electric Tractor Corporation, "An Idea Whose Time Has Come," 5 pages, date of publication unknown, published in Ontario, Canada.	
	NPLD3	Electric Tractor Corporation, Model #9620- The Ultimate Lawn and Garden Tractor, 6 pages, printed, July 27, 1998.	
	NPLD4	Farm Show Magazine, "Battery Powered Riding Mower," 1 page, date of publication, March-April 1996.	
	NPLD5	Deere & Company, "240, 245, 260, 265, 285 and 320 Lawn and Garden Tractors, Technical Manual," front cover and pp. 10-2 to 10-4 and 10-6, dated September 26, 1996.	
	NPLD6	Excel Industries, Inc., "Hustler 4000 Series," product brochure, pp. 1-8, December 1995.	
	NPLD7	Woods Equipment Company, "Woods Mow'n Machine," product brochure, pp. 1-12, December 1997.	
	NPLD8	Ex-Mark, "ExMark Nobody Does It Better - Professional Turf Care Equipment," pp. 1-20, December 1997.	
	NPLD9	Dixon Industries, Inc., "Dixon ZTR Riding Mowers," pp. 1-4, December 1997.	
	NPLD10	Shivers Mfg., "Zero Turn Radius Mower - The Commercial Clipper,", pp. 1-4, December 1997	

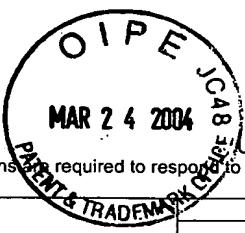
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				Filing Date October 9, 2003
				First Named Inventor Irikura et al.
				Art Unit 3611
				Examiner Name To Be Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number 0666.1400002/TGD/ALF

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	NPLD11	OGORKIEWICZ, R. M., "Tank Steering Mechanisms," <i>The Engineer</i> , pp. 337-340, March 3, 1967.	
	NPLD12	Ferris Industries Inc., "The ProCut Z Zero-Turn Rider," pp. 1-2, December 1997.	
	NPLD13	Zipper-TS Mower, "The Zipper-TS Mowers," pp. 1-2, 1997.	
	NPLD14	Westwood, "The Westwood Clipper Owners Instruction Manual," pp. 1-17 and 19, date of publication unknown.	
	NPLD15	Brochure regarding differential steering, pp. 4-15, date of publication unknown.	
	NPLD16	BARGO, Michael, Jr., "Tanks And Dozers Turn On A Dime With New All Gear Steering," <i>Popular Science</i> , pp. 60-62, July 1985.	
	NPLD17	Patent Cooperative Treaty International Search Report, International Application No. PCT/US98/13811 dated November 1998.	

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